

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

SUB P1

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method of text
equivalencing from a string of characters comprising:
modifying the string of characters using a predetermined set of heuristics;
~~comparing~~ performing a character-by-character comparison of the modified
string with a known string of characters in order to locate a match;
responsive to not finding an exact match, forming a plurality of sub-strings of
characters from the string of characters; and
using an information retrieval technique on the sub-strings of characters to
determine a known string of characters equivalent to the string of
characters.

C1

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information retrieval
technique further comprises:
weighting the sub-strings;
scoring the known string of characters; and
retrieving information associated with the known string of characters with the
highest score.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising, responsive to the
2 highest score being greater than a first threshold, automatically accepting the known
3 string of characters as an exact match.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising, responsive to the
2 highest score being less than a second threshold and greater than a first threshold,
3 presenting the known string of characters to a user for manual confirmation.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising, responsive to the
2 highest score being less than a second threshold and greater than a third threshold,
3 presenting the known string of characters to a user to select the equivalent string of
4 characters.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sub-strings of characters are
2 3-grams.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the string of characters is
2 selected from the group consisting of a song title, a song artist, an album name, a
3 book title, an author's name, a book publisher, a genetic sequence, and a computer
4 program.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined set of
2 heuristics comprises removing whitespace from the string of characters.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined set of
2 heuristics comprises removing a portion of the string of characters.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined set of
2 heuristics comprises replacing a symbol in the string of characters with an alternate
3 representation for the symbol.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing an indication
2 that the string of characters is the equivalent of the known string of characters.

1 12. (Currently amended) A computer implemented system for text
2 equivalencing from a string of characters comprising:

3 a heuristics module for modifying the string of characters using a
4 predetermined set of heuristics;

5 a comparator module, coupled to the heuristics module, for ~~comparing~~
6 performing a character-by-character comparison of the modified string
7 with a known string of characters in order to find a match;

8 a sub-string formation module, coupled to the comparator module, responsive
9 to not finding an exact match, for forming a plurality of sub-strings of
10 characters from the string of characters; and

11 an information retrieval module, coupled to the sub-string formation module,
12 for performing an information retrieval technique on the sub-strings of

13 characters to determine a known string of characters equivalent to the
14 string of characters.

1 13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the information retrieval
2 module further comprises:
3 a weight module for weighting the sub-strings;
4 a score module for scoring the known string of characters; and
5 a retrieval module, coupled to the weight and score modules, for retrieving
6 information associated with the known string of characters with the
7 highest score.

1 14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising an accept module,
2 coupled to the retrieval module, for accepting the information retrieved as an exact
3 match for the highest score greater than a first threshold.

1 15. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising an accept module,
2 coupled to the retrieval module, for presenting the information retrieved to a user for
3 manual confirmation for the highest score less than a first threshold and greater than
4 a second threshold.

1 16. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising an accept module,
2 coupled to the retrieval module, for presenting the information retrieved to the user

3 as a set of options for a user to select for the highest score less than a second
4 threshold and greater than a third threshold.

1 17. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the sub-strings of characters
2 are 3-grams.

1 18. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the string of characters is
2 selected from the group consisting of a song title, a song artist, an album name, a
3 book title, and author's name, a book publisher, a genetic sequence, and a computer
4 program.

1 19. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined set of
2 heuristics comprises removing whitespace from the string of characters.

C1 1 20. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the heuristics module
2 comprises a removal module for removing a portion of the string of characters.

1 21. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the heuristics module
2 comprises a replacement module for replacing a symbol in the string of characters
3 with an alternate representation for the symbol.

1 22. (Original) The system of claim 12 further comprising a database update
2 module for storing an indication that the known string of characters is the equivalent
3 of the known string of characters.

23. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium comprising
computer-readable code for performing text equivalencing from a string of
characters comprising:
computer-readable code adapted to modify the string of characters using a
predetermined set of heuristics;
computer-readable code adapted to ~~compare~~ perform a character-by-character
comparison of the modified string with a known string of characters in
order to locate a match;
computer-readable code, responsive to not finding an exact match, adapted to
form a plurality sub-strings of characters from the string of characters; and
computer-readable code adapted to use an information retrieval technique on
the sub-strings of characters to determine a known string of characters
equivalent to the string of characters.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the
information retrieval technique further comprises:
computer-readable code adapted to weight the sub-strings;
computer-readable code adapted to score the known string of characters; and
computer-readable code adapted to retrieve information associated with the
known string of characters with the highest score.

1 25. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 24, further
2 comprising computer-readable code, responsive to the highest score being greater
3 than a first threshold, adapted to automatically accept the known string of characters
4 as an exact match.

1 26. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 24, further
2 comprising computer-readable code, responsive to the highest score being less than a
3 second threshold and greater than a first threshold, adapted to present the known
4 string of characters to a user for manual confirmation.

CI
1 27. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 24, further
2 comprising computer-readable code, responsive to the highest score being less than a
3 second threshold and greater than a third threshold, adapted to present the known
4 string of characters to a user to select the equivalent string of characters.

1 28. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the sub-
2 strings of characters are 3-grams.

1 29. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the string
2 of characters selected from a group consisting of a song title, a song artist, an album
3 name, a book title, an author's name, a book publisher, a genetic sequence, and a
4 computer program.

1 30. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the
2 predetermined set of heuristics comprises removing whitespace from the string of
3 characters.

1 31. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the
2 predetermined set of heuristics comprises removing a portion of the string of
3 characters.

1 32. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the predetermined set of
2 heuristics comprises replacing a symbol in the string of characters with an alternate
3 representation for the symbol.

cl 1 33. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 further comprising
2 updating the known string of characters to indicate the string of characters is the
3 equivalent of the known string of characters.

1 34. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented system for performing
2 text equivalencing from a string of characters comprising:

3 a modifying means for modifying the string of characters using a
4 predetermined set of heuristics;

5 a comparator means for ~~comparing~~ performing a character-by-character
6 comparison of the modified string with a known string of characters in
7 order to locate a match;

8 responsive to not finding an exact match, a formation means for forming a
9 plurality sub-strings of characters from the string of characters; and
10 an information retrieval means for determining a known string of characters
11 equivalent to the string of characters.

1 35. (Original) The system of claim 34, wherein the information retrieval
2 means further comprises:
C1 3 a weight means for weighting the sub-strings;
4 a score means for scoring the known string of characters; and
5 a retrieval means for retrieving information associated with the known string
6 of characters with the highest score.
